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Message Text

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ORIGIN SP-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05
SS-15 ACDA-07 L-03 ERDA-05 MC-02 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07 AID-05
IGA-02 CCO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 /097 R

DRAFTED BY S/P:JHKAHAN
APPROVED BY PM:RBARTHOLOMEW
S/P:PKREISBERG
PM:RERICSON
T:SLEDOGAR / D:DLAMB
DOD/ISA:LDVAIS
NEA:ADUBS/NVELIOTES
NSC:JTUCHMAN
ACDA:RBEHR
S/S: MR. MACFARLANE
----------192237Z 092922 /73
O 192055Z MAY 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE
USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DACCA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE
JCS IMMEDIATE
DOD/OSD IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115278 TOSEC 040355

GENEVA S/S FOR GELB

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS

SUBJECT: US ARMS SALES POLICY

REF: STATE 115244

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1. FOLLOWING ARE SUPPLEMENTARY TALKING POINTS TO BE DRAWN UPON IN EXPLAINING PRESIDENTIAL DECISION ON US ARMS SALES POLICY. BASIC GUIDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS BEING SENT SEPTEL.

2. FYI. WE EXPECT THAT GOI WILL BE INTERESTED NOT ONLY IN GLOBAL DIMENSION OF PRESIDENT'S NEW ARMS RESTRAINT POLICY AND ITS EFFECT ON INDIA (PROBABLY MARGINAL) BUT WILL BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN HOW IT MAY AFFECT PAKISTAN. IN THESE REGARDS, YOU MAY DRAW UPON THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS WHEN BRIEFING GOI. END FYI.

-- ARMS SALES HAVE NOT BEEN A SIGNIFICANT DIMENSION OF OUR RELATIONS WITH INDIA, BUT THE LEVEL OF SALES, HISTORICALLY, WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE A DETERMINANT FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE ARMS SALES TO INDIA.

-- SO FAR AS PAKISTAN IS CONCERNED, THE UNITED STATES WISHES TO PRESERVE A GOOD RELATIONSHIP. WE WOULD EXPECT ARMS TRANSFERS TO BE ONE DIMENSION OF SUCH A RELATIONSHIP. (FYI: UNDER THE NEW POLICY, CENTO IS NOT CONSIDERED AN ALLIANCE IN THE SAME SENSE AS NATO AND ANZUS. END FYI.)

-- WE HAVE PURSUED AN ARMS TRANSFER POLICY IN THE SUB-CONTINENT THAT WOULD NOT UPSET THE MILITARY EQUATION NOR MAKE US A MAJOR SUPPLIER TO THE REGION. THIS CONTINUES TO BE OUR POLICY.

-- OUR SOUTH ASIA APPROACH UNDER THE NEW GLOBAL ARMS
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POLICY CONTINUES TO BE ONE OF NOT DISTURBING THE PROCESS OF REGIONAL NORMALIZATION.

3. FYI. YOU SHOULD NOT RAISE THE QUESTION OF SOVIET ARMS SUPPLIES TO THE SUBCONTINENT, BUT IF ASKED MAY NOTE THAT WE WILL BE INFORMING THE USSR ABOUT OUR NEW POLICY AND THAT A US-SOVIET WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED BY THE TALKS IN MOSCOW IN MARCH WILL DEAL SPECIFICALLY WITH CONVENTIONAL ARMS SALES. END FYI.

4. EMBASSY SHOULD NOT GO BEYOND THESE POINTS IN RESPONDING TO ANY QUESTIONS ON THE DETAILED APPLICATION OF THE ARMS POLICY TO THE SUBCONTINENT. HOWEVER, EMBASSY MAY DRAW UPON GUIDANCE PROVIDED IN REFTELS IN OFFERING GENERAL REPLIES TO GOI QUERIES ABOUT THE BROADER POLICY. CHRISTOPHER

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Remarks:
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